



Testimony of Sean Bradbury
Legislative Program Manager
Connecticut State Colleges & Universities
To the Public Safety and Security Committee
March 1, 2016

SB 122: AN ACT CONCERNING SECURITY AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

Senator Larson, Representative Dargan, Senator Guglielmo, Representative Zupkus and members of the Public Safety and Security Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony to you today on behalf of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities system.

The goal of a mandatory, periodic safety and security audit is laudable and comports with our recent and planned activities for the facilities that comprise the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) system. We would note that we completed such an audit in early 2014, and are currently developing a strategy to address areas of risk identified in the study's report.

Our concerns with the proposed bill are twofold. First, the previous study performed for CSCU took almost two years to complete. Due to the age and nature of CSCU's facilities, and to the comprehensive nature of the recent study undertaken, we are concerned that a January 1, 2018 due date will be difficult to meet. In addition, since we recently completed a very comprehensive study, embarking on and performing another audit to identify safety and security issues would place a substantial, unnecessary financial and administrative burden on the CSCU system.

Second, the study referenced above cost the CSCU system just under \$800K. Based on the current budget issues we face, and the prognosis for the next few years, it will be difficult to identify and allocate the cost of an audit in 2016/2017, as well as for the foreseeable future. We believe this is money that could be spent on faculty, advisors, instruction costs, and other things that will promote student recruitment and success.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at bradburys@ct.edu or 860-723-0017.